

What German Victory Would Mean.  
Many Sad Things.  
But It Won't Mean Anything.  
For It Won't Happen.

Thomas J. Walsh says we ought to print a leaflet headed, "What Germany's Victory Means," and signed Irvin S. Cobb.

We agree with him, and here are Mr. Cobb's paragraphs:

What Germany's Victory Means.  
It means the triumph in the world of Prussianism, Prussianism being another name for despotism, cruelty, and intolerance.

It means the spread of Kultur, a thing which seems to be good for a German, but which is fatal to anyone else.

It means the denial of justice to Belgium, to Serbia, to Poland, to the Rumanians.

It means, sooner or later, an assault by force of arms upon the principle of the Monroe doctrine.

It means the greatest blow ever struck against the principle of representative government among the peoples of the earth.

It means the loss to France, not only of Alsace and Lorraine, but of her northern provinces.

It means the tearing down of Great Britain as a great constructive and civilizing force in the world.

It means that this planet is to be made an unfit place whereon to live for men and women who believe that intelligent human beings are capable of self-government.

It means the apotheosis of a half-mad despot called a Kaiser, and his degenerate first-born, called a Crown Prince.

It means unrestricted murder of non-combatants on the high seas; indiscriminate and unrestricted slaughter from the air of innocent victims in unarmed cities; and unrestricted rapine, brutality, and servitude for the helpless peoples of captive and vassal states upon the land.

What Germany's Defeat Means.  
The exact opposite of the things above enumerated.

Consequently, to Mr. Cobb's paragraphs may be added the following:

German victory would mean that the United States had been defeated, and that is IMPOSSIBLE.

It may take some time for the United States, co-operating with the allies, to make Germany admit defeat.

But it would take a hundred years for Germany to make THIS country admit its defeat. Therefore, German victory won't mean ANYTHING, for German victory won't happen.

In a fine speech on Saturday night, Champ Clark, Speaker of the House, said:

"No nation will long survive or deserve to survive that does not protect all of its citizens wherever they may be, on land or sea."  
Mr. Clark said that was his carefully worded definition of a nation worth while.

We call his attention to conditions under which Americans have lived—or tried to live—"on land" in Mexico next door. We also call his attention to the manner in which American citizens and their wives and children have died in Mexico.

However, there is a big war across the water and we must be patient with little things for the present. The nation does not doubt that in "making the world safe for democracy" when the time comes, President Wilson will see to it that Mexico, next door, is made safe for Americans.

The Mexican who comes to America is protected in life and property.

The American who goes to Mexico takes his chances against assorted bandits, and has no protection whatever. He is like a white rabbit suddenly dropped in city traffic.

France is increasing taxes on war profits to an extent that will provide fifty millions additional revenue. Congress, take notice.

Lord Robert Cecil, speaking officially in the House of Commons, says that there is no alliance between the United States and England.

That fact has been pointed out already in this newspaper. In President Wilson, fortunately, the nation has a man able to attend to one important job without trying the country up as regards the future.

President Wilson will take this country out of the war as clear of "entangling alliances" as it was when he went into it.

Your attention was called here some time ago to the fact that in English documents allusion is always made to "The Allies and the United States." Not to "The Allies." INCLUDING the United States.

WEATHER:  
PARTLY  
CLOUDY TO-  
NIGHT; TUES-  
DAY COLDER

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## Mrs. De Saulles Tells Of What Led Her To Kill

### WAR OFFICE OVERRUN BY COMMISSION APPLICANTS

Secretary Baker's Warning  
That Merit Alone Counts in  
Army Promotions Ignored.  
Men Rejected Insistent.

By DAVID LAWRENCE.  
(Copyright, 1917, by New York Evening Post Company.)

Pressure for commissions in the army, particularly from the friends of men who are subject to the selective draft, is more intense than it has been at any time since the United States entered the war.

Everybody in Washington, from the highest officials, members of Congress, and persons already in the military and naval branches of the service to civilians in the National Capital who come in contact with the War and Navy Departments, has been receiving letters, telegram and telephone calls, seeking aid in getting commissions.

Some Honest; Others Selfish.

The requests are of two kinds: Those who honestly believe the Government should take advantage of the extraordinary capacity of their friends to place them in administrative rather than fighting positions, and those who are consciously or unconsciously influenced by a spirit of selfishness.

The War Department is flooded with letters and crowded with callers. White House officials find half their time occupied in referring people who have come there instead of to the War Department to ask about commissions. Hardly an official in other branches of the Government with work of importance to do is free from at least two or three requests a day, some from relatives or business associates, some with letters of recommendation from other intimate friends, and so on.

Merit Only, Baker Says.

How much of an embarrassment to the Government itself the whole business is proving can be estimated only by a canvass of officials. To find a man who hasn't been asked to get a commission for somebody presents the exception rather than the rule.

Secretary Baker is adamant on the question of commissions. Merit alone counts, he says, and he is relying faithfully on the word of his subordinate officers to select out of the mass of applicants the men who should be commissioned. Of course, many of the applications come from the friends of young men who have failed in the training camps or who are not being promoted as rapidly from the ranks as they believe they should be.

The Secretary of War had an opportunity recently to set a doubtful father straight on the question of political favoritism. The latter wrote inquiring why it was that a laundryman's son and a millionaire's boy were commissioned and his offspring rejected. Mr. Baker, with characteristic forcefulness, pointed out that a laundryman's son and a millionaire's son were in the same class so far as he was concerned, and that if in this case both were commissioned, he had no doubt that merit was the controlling factor.

Must Follow Precedent.

Political pressure of every sort has been exerted upon the War Department, but Secretary Baker smilingly tells his visitors that the precedent established in the case of Colonel Roosevelt must be followed. If, in other words, a man of the political prominence of Colonel Roosevelt, but without the requisite military requirements can be rejected, then no Democratic politician certainly can ask for the exercise of favoritism in his own case. No political colonels or generals have been created as a consequence. Mr. Roosevelt, therefore, really performed a notable service by coming forward so early and having his application considered on its merits.

To stem the tide of applicants who for some reason or other regard themselves as too important to fight in the trenches, the War Department has made an inflexible rule that men of draft age shall not be commissioned for administrative or staff work. Only in exceptional cases is the rule waived and before any commissions of this kind are granted, the War Department must satisfy itself that the applicant really has extraordinary ability and that no man over draft age can be secured to do the job for which the younger man is so remarkably fitted. Of course, it is obvious that few men between twenty-one and thirty-one are of such exceptional fitness as to cause the authorities to feel warranted in waiving the rule.

Selective Draft Satisfactory.

The best way, therefore, for men of draft age who think they ought to be commissioned is to enter the officers' reserve training camps or to respond to the summons for service.

(Continued on Page 2, Column 3.)

### Rich Widow, and Man Tried For Her Death

GASTON B. MEANS.



MRS. MAUDE A. KING.

### OLD-TIME WINTER WEATHER ON WAY, SAYS FORECASTER

Freezing temperatures are to be the part of Washington for the next several days, with the sun obscured by a large portion of the time by clouds, the Weather Bureau announced today. The mercury will hover around 26 degrees after midnight, but will rise during the day, it is said.

There is little expectation of snow or rain, or a very decided change in the temperature here, it was stated. Washington is a little better off in this respect than other parts of the country, decidedly cold weather prevailing west of the Rockies, and with the thermometer registering 23 degrees below zero in the White River district, just north of Lake Superior.

### BALFOUR DENIES REPORT OF 1913 WAR COUNCIL

LONDON, Nov. 26.—Denial that there was any secret meeting of the privy council in July, 1913, which advocated war with Germany, was made in the House of Commons this afternoon by Foreign Minister Balfour, "on authority of the King."

German propaganda has spread such a report.

### SUGAR SHORTAGE IN CITY EASED; PLENTY BY XMAS

Washington is to get a portion of the 16,000 tons of sugar intended for Russian consignment, which was taken over by the Food Administration.

The American refiners' committee is meeting here today to arrange for apportionment and distribution of this sugar to Eastern cities. Six thousand tons of it may go to France, though this point is to be determined. Washington's sugar shortage is to become gradually less acute for the next three weeks. Before Christmas, according to an official of the Food Administration, the supply will be normal, or nearly so.

There are some twenty-five odd cars of sugar "somewhere" on the rails consigned to Washington, according to the statement of Paul J. Christian, representative here of the Louisiana producers. Some of this is expected late today.

Many of the smaller stores have no sugar, and it may be several days before they get a supply. Two chain store systems have a limited supply and others are expecting shipments. In from two to three weeks great quantities of raw sugar will be reaching the Eastern seaboard from Cuba and Porto Rico, it was said at the Food Administration offices. In addition, some beet sugar from the West is now moving east of Pittsburgh.

## PRESIDENT WILSON RECEIVES OFFICIAL TEXT OF RUSSIA'S PROPOSAL FOR PEACE

### MEANS WEARS A SMILE AS BATTLE FOR LIFE BEGINS

Confident He Will Be Freed on  
Charge of Slaying Wealthy  
Widow—Jury Selection a  
Tedious Process.

COURTHOUSE, CONCORD, N. C., Nov. 26.—Gaston B. Means is today supremely confident of his acquittal in the trial charging him with the murder of Mrs. Maude A. King on August 29.

Smiling and leering, Means entered the room as court was called to order. It was his first bit of freedom for many days and he seated himself in the sunlight, tilted back in his chair and smiled. His interest in the selection of a jury was indifferent. He seemed more interested making friends with the audience in the courtroom. His smiles, winks, and waved salutes did not give him the air of a man on trial for his life.

Defense Seeks Apathetic.  
Even the counsel for the defense was apathetic. All seemed inclined with confidence of victory against a case "made by foreigners."

The dark gray court house was the center of interest for all North Carolina. Farmers gathered from miles about and the beauty of the South was not absent, for the front rows in the court room were filled with girls knitting.

In the jury box sat eighteen men badly frightened, apparently. They were the first men liable to jury duty, and none of them was anxious to weigh the evidence against a member of the powerful Means family.

The jury finally selected to sit in the case will be a jury of workingmen. This was evident today as the special venire of 120 began to gather, collarless for the most part, with the evidences of their honest toil still apparent, and answered the call of the sheriff.

Prisoner's Wife In Court.  
The defense intends to let no chance of personal acquaintance slip by. Seated where they may see every man in the jury box are many members of the Means family. By the side of the prisoner sits his wife, a quiet little woman. Modestly garbed, Mrs. Means seems to be the most nervous of any on the witness stand.

Work of calling a special venire proceeded slowly. It was evident that the taking of testimony will not begin earlier than Wednesday.

Means seemed to enjoy the process of the drawing of the special venire. As each name was read he smiled, and assented by a nod of the head, for each was a man known either to the defendant or some member of his family.

### RUTH LAW IS REFUSED FLYER'S COMMISSION

Miss Ruth Law, noted aviatrix, will be denied a commission in the American flying corps, which will be sent to France to aid the allies in driving the Germans from the air.

The judge advocate general's office has held, in an informal opinion, that no woman can be accepted in the United States army, either in the commissioned or enlisted ranks.

### PUTS TORCH TO FAMILY; SHOOTS TEN FIREMEN

LOGANSPORT, Ind., Nov. 26.—Frank Warner, son of an ex-sheriff of Monticello, poured gasoline over his wife and children, his house and garage at Wolcott, Ind., and then applied the torch Saturday night.

When firemen arrived, he began shooting at them and from ten to twelve men were shot, according to reports received here today.

### Mrs. Wilson Woodrow FAMOUS WRITER

IS AT THE  
De Saulles Trial  
FOR  
The Times

A most interesting article on Mrs. De Saulles by her is printed  
On Page 3 Today



MRS. WILSON WOODROW

## MRS. BLANCA DE SAULLES TELLS HER GRIM STORY OF LOVE AND DEATH TRAGEDY

MINEOLA, Nov. 26.—The story of a romance that ended in tragedy was related on the witness stand today by Mrs. Blanca De Saulles, on trial for the killing of her husband, Jack De Saulles, clubman and former U. S. champion.

A capacity audience that included many society women was in the courtroom when Mrs. De Saulles took the witness stand. Mrs. Reginald Vanderbilt was among the spectators. The pretty defendant bowed to the jury and smiled when she entered the room.

Henry A. Uthart, her counsel, opened the questioning of Mrs. De Saulles. She responded in a low, soft voice, with a slight accent. She looked like a school girl, answering questions in a demure, questioning expression. She began by describing her meeting with De Saulles in February, 1911.

"He wanted to marry me," she laughed. Then she told of her marriage to the ex-Yale football star in Paris. Uthart produced a photograph of her with her hair streaming down her back. "That picture of me," she said, with a smile, "was taken the day before our wedding."

She told how De Saulles continually demanded money of her after their marriage. De Saulles, she said, bought her a revolver for her protection while he was away on a political campaign.

Uthart produced a revolver and handed it to Mrs. De Saulles for identification. She refused to take it, shuddered and turned her head away and eyes closed. In a trembling voice Mrs. De Saulles then described her husband's neglect of her in South Bethlehem after their child was born.

"He was home only for week ends," she said. "It wasn't very nice." In Washington, she said, her husband showed her a picture of an aviator. (Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)

### HEAVY JAIL TERMS AND FINES FOR DRY LAW VIOLATORS

Eight men forfeited collateral of from \$20 to \$25 each, ten were sentenced from thirty days to nine months each, and a \$500 fine was imposed upon another in Police Court today as a result of alleged violations of the Sheppard "dry" law in Washington Saturday and yesterday.

"I will give you nine months without privilege of paying a fine instead," said Judge Mulhoney after Andrew Toyer was convicted of selling whiskey.

Charles Stewart was fined \$500 for having whiskey in his possession and selling it. His home contained a number of bottles of beer, several gallons of whiskey, and empty bottles.

### RECOGNITION OF REVOLTERS INVOLVED IN NOTE REPLY

Administration Inflexible in Its  
Intention to Fight on Until  
the War for Democracy is Won.

The Bolshevik proposal for an armistice and universal peace is officially before President Wilson today. The peace offer arrived yesterday from Ambassador Francis, Petrograd.

It will be carefully considered by President Wilson and by Secretary of State Lansing. Whether it will be answered is still undecided. An answer might be construed as recognition of the Bolsheviks as the de facto government, and this matter will be one of the chief points in determining America's course.

U. S. Will Refuse.

In any event, this Government will not accept an armistice, and it has no intention of negotiating for peace until the aim of safety for world democracy is accomplished, the State Department indicated today.

If an answer is given, it will endeavor probably to signify the Russian people behind the war, and to shatter further efforts at an armistice or a separate peace which might aid Germany.

Bolshevik Control Betwixt.

The Bolshevik control is rapidly extending to the Russian army and navy, according to diplomatic officials here today. Unofficial reports from the Russian embassy believe that the Bolshevik power has not reached its maximum. The internal Bolshevik program is gaining in strength every day. It may be some weeks, or even months, it was pointed out, before the Russian masses realize that their pro. arm of an international peace is doomed to failure.

Reports of fighting on the Jacobstadt sector are regarded as significant by military attaches of the embassy. They believe it inevitable that some army units will refuse to fall in with the Bolshevik program.

### FRENCH SMASH TWO LINES OF FOE'S DEFENSE; 800 PRISONERS TAKEN

LONDON, Nov. 26.—General Petain backed up Field Marshal Haig today. While Germany was desperately combing her lines for reinforcements to stem the tide of the British advance on Cambrai, France struck a sharp, sudden blow out of Verdun.

First and second lines of enemy defense positions and 800 prisoners captured were the net results of this localized attack over a front of more than two miles.

Important Sector Taken.

The ground taken was in a highly important sector of the enemy lines between Samogreun, north of Hill 264. Strong fighting was reported in progress.

Along the British front, Byng's war machine was still forcing the fighting around Cambrai. Spurred by Hindenburg's demands that the all-important high ground around Bourlon be retaken at all costs, Crown Prince Rupprecht yesterday violently counter attacked the British advanced lines there.

British Grip Unshaken.

Positions have been taken and retaken, held and lost half a dozen times around here—but the British trip on the Bourlon wood itself was unshaken. The loss of the village of Bourlon was not German and half British, with fighting progressing over its ruins.

### BITTER BATTLE SWINGS IN ITALIANS' FAVOR ALONG PIAVE RIVER

WITH THE ITALIAN ARMIES.  
Nov. 26.—The crucial battle across the eleven-mile gap between the Brenta and the Piave rivers was swinging in

### YESTERDAY The Washington Times GAINED

8,794 Lines of Advertising (31 Cols.)  
Over the Corresponding Day (Nov. 26) Last Year

EDGAR D. SHAW,  
Publisher.